(a) whether some agreements for import/expart of fertilizers have been signed with foreign countries during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of the countries with whom such agreements have been signed?

THE MINISTEE OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Import of fertilizers is canalised through the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC). During the last three years MMTC finalised contracts for import of fertilizers with a number of suppliers from the countries like Jordan, West Germany, GDR, France, Canada, USSR, Holland, Romania, U.K., Japan, USA, Mexico, Czechoslovakia, Norway, etc.

Being a net importer of fertilizers, India does not normally export fertilizers. However, 10,000 tonnes of DAP and 20,000 tonnes of urea were supplies, respectively by Pyrites Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. and Fertilizer Corporation of India to Nepal to meet its urgent need in 1991.

[*English*]

**Financial and technical collaborations**

4460. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of proposals for financial and technical collaborations received by the Reserve Bank of India during each of the last three years and during the current year;

(b) the number of proposals, out of these, cleared so far;

(c) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the steps being taken for early clearance of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). In pursuance of the decision contained in paras 39 (B) and 30 (C) of the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both the Houses of Parliament on 24th July, 1991, the Reserve Bank of India Started receiveing applications for automatic approval of direct foreign investment and technical collaborations only after 16th September, 1991.

The total number of applications received by the Reserve Bank of India upto 14.3.1992 is 505. Out of these, 365 have been approved; 90 have been returned to the respective applicants as these were not within the powers delegated to the Reserve Bank of India while the remaining 50 were under process as on 14.3.1992. The normal period for disposal of applications by the Reserve Bank of India is two weeks and he of the 50 cases under process is pending beyond two weeks.

**Shortage of Hearses in Delhi**

4461. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of Hearses in the Capital;

(b) whether some private Hearses are plying in the Capital without permit; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The M.C.D. has reported that they have adequate num-

ber of hearses. The fleet is augmented as and when considered necessary.

(b) and (c). The transport Department of Delhi Admn. Has informed that under Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 no permit is necessary for any transport vehicle used solely for the conveyance of corpses and the mourners accompenying the corpses.

**Equity in Public Sector Undertakings**

4462. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to disinvest 49 per cent of equity in the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the total funds mobilised so far by disinvestment and the funds expected to be generated under the extension of the scheme; and

(c) the manner in which these funds are proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Government have decided to disinvest beyond 20% of the issued capital of public sector undertakings in selected cases, retaining majority shareholding with it.

(b) Government have so far mobilised Rs. 3038 crores by disinvesting about 8% shares of selected 30 public sector undertakings. As announced in the Budget for 1992-93, a further sum of Rs. 3500 crores would be raised by sale of public sector shares during 1992-93.

(c) Sale of public sector shares is being done to raise non-inflationary resources for development and for providing resources to the National Renewal Fund which can be used for various schemes of assistance to workers who may be affected in the revival/ restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises.

**Income from Agricultural Sector**

4463. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income from the agricultural sector has declined vis-a-vis income from other sectors during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a decline; and

(c) the steps contemplated to increase the income from agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir. The estimated gross domestic Product in the agriculture sector (at 1980-81 prices) increased by 25.96% from 1987-88 to 1990-91 whereas the estimated GDP for other sectors recorded an increase of 22.72% during the same period. A statement is attached—I.

(b) question does not arise.

(c) Agriculture and allied activities sector continue to be a priority area during the Eighth Plan (1992-97). It is envisaged to increase income from agriculture sector through diversification of agriculture to Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, poultry, sericulture, pisciculture, etc. and acceleration of agrobased rural activities.